



# HF Happenings



South African Radio League \* Suid-Afrikaanse Radioliga  
1925 - 2015

Member Society of the International Amateur Radio Union since 1925

[www.sarl.org.za](http://www.sarl.org.za) [www.iaru.org](http://www.iaru.org) [www.iaru-r1.org](http://www.iaru-r1.org)

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## Two young and interesting DX contests were announced this week

The Nauryz DX Contest is the first and the only Central Asian DX contest on HF. Named for an ancient spring holiday and running on 14 March 14 from 08:00 to 13:59 UTC, the contest promotes HF activity among the Central Asian amateurs of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and when amateur radio is again authorised there, Turkmenistan. Participants from all over the world are welcome in this third running of the contest.

<http://www.nauryz-dx-contest.com/>

From Africa, Roger ZS6RJ notes that the brand-new Africa All-Mode International DX Contest kicks off next weekend <http://www.africadxcontest.org/>. The everyone-works-everyone contest is a 24-hour CW, SSB, Digital or mixed event sponsored by the SARL starting at 12:00 UTC on 14 March. The 7QAA DXpedition team will be active in the contest as well.

## The Africa All Mode International DX Contest



The objective of the Africa All Mode International DX Contest is to stimulate contesting from Africa. All participating stations worldwide may work any entity during the contest period, but QSOs with radio amateurs from Africa are encouraged as reflected in the higher points being awarded in the scoring mechanism. African DXCC entities are defined as those valid per the ARRL

DXCC AF listing published at the date and time of the contest.

The contest will run from 12:00 UTC on Saturday 14 March to 12:00 UTC on Sunday 15 March 2015. Both single and multi-operator stations may operate for the entire 24-hour period. There are no mandated breaks in operating time required. CW, RTTY and SSB may be used on 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 metres

The exchange is the RS(T) report followed by an incremental serial number commencing at 001. Changing modes or bands does not necessitate different serial number ranges. A complete exchange, consisting of an RS(T) and serial number, must be logged for each QSO.

All QSOs with African entities count 10 points and all other QSOs count 1 point. No paper entries will be accepted for the contest or checking purposes. Entries must be submitted in Cabrillo format only and be received no later than 30 March 2015. Entries must be sent to [contest@sarl.org.za](mailto:contest@sarl.org.za). Read the rules about scoring, multipliers and power on page 50 of the 2015 Contest Manual [www.sarl.org.za/public/contests/contestrules.asp](http://www.sarl.org.za/public/contests/contestrules.asp) and/or [www.zs4bfn.co.za/bluebook.asp](http://www.zs4bfn.co.za/bluebook.asp)

## Where have all the young radio amateurs gone?

If you ask any old timer when they were first licensed, they will probably say teens or early 20s, but where are today's teen radio amateurs?

Even those who have taken up the hobby in later life recall that their interest in amateur radio was first sparked in their teens.

For years, the average age of the hobby has been steadily increasing and the number in their teens and twenties has been dwindling.

Since Ofcom do not publish a demographic breakdown of licensees, how do we know how many young amateurs there are in the UK? Fortunately, the RSGB give free membership to amateurs who are under 21 or aged 21 to 25 and in Full Time Education. Since membership is free there is likely to be a strong correlation between this membership category and the total number of young radio amateurs.

The decline appears to have been particularly severe in recent years. It is understood that in 2011, there were about 410 young amateurs but by 2015, there were just 234, a dramatic slump of 43% in just 4 years. At the end of 2014, the RSGB established a Youth Committee and their first meeting was held on 26 November. The 11 young members on the committee make up almost 5% of all young amateurs in the UK. The Youth Committee Chairman, Mike Jones, 2EOMLJ, was recently interviewed on the TX Factor TV show, which can be seen at

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=B\\_PxaPHJY8M](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B_PxaPHJY8M)

It is not that young people are not interested these days in experimenting with radio. There is widespread interest in building very low power software defined radios and transmitters operating in the UHF and Microwave license exempt bands. Youngsters aged 14 or 15 are building transmitter payloads for high altitude balloons which generate radio signals that can be received over 800 km away.

They are building networks such as UKHASNET and developing their own repeaters and Internet gateways.

These experimenters are exactly the type of young people Amateur Radio needs but is failing to attract.

Looking back at pictures from amateur radio rallies of the 1960s or 1970s it is striking how much younger the attendees are compared to today. One collection of photos can be seen at

## March 2015

- 1 - SARL Hamnet Contest
- 7 and 8 - ARRL International DX Contest
- 8 - International Women's Day (not in South Africa); Cape Argus PnP Cycle Tour
- 13 - Africa Scout Day
- 14 and 15 - Africa All Modes Contest; RSGB Commonwealth Contest
- 17 - St Patrick's Day
- 18 to 24 - Scifest Africa, Grahamstown
- 20 - Autumn Equinox; SARL 90 Open Day for ICASA and the Media
- 21 - Human Rights Day; Hindi New Year; SARL 90 Open Day; Oude Kraal Mutton and Beerfest
- 21 and 22 - SARL VHF/UHF Contest
- 22 - World Water Day
- 23 - World Meteorological day
- 25 - Inland Schools close
- 28 - SARL@Home - DXing and Contesting with Chris, ZS6EZ
- 28 and 29 - CQ WPX SSB; SARL 5 MHz Activity Weekend
- 29 - Palm Sunday

## April

- 1 - Coastal Schools close; 61st Annual Poisson d'Avril Contest
- 2 - SARL 80 m QSO Party
- 2 to 12 - Stars of Sandstone Festival, Ficksburg
- 3 - Good Friday
- 3 to 11 - KKNK, Oudtshoorn
- 4 - RaDAR Challenge; Two Oceans Marathon
- 4 to 11 - Pesach
- 5 - Easter Sunday
- 6 - Family day
- 9 - Closing date May RAE
- 11 - Autumn QRP Contest
- 13 - All Schools open
- 17 to 19 - SARL National Convention
- 18 - World Amateur Radio Day
- 22 - Earth Day
- 25 - HABEX-10 launch

<http://guitarwizard.smugmug.com/Hobbies/Radio-Ham-Buddies/>

It would be very interesting to see what the status is here in South Africa - I do not think ICASA will have such data (until they change the ZU regulations), but I am sure the SARL database has that information. How many



young radio amateurs are there in South Africa?

By the way, have you noticed the lack of ZU call signs on the air?

### Record team entries for Commonwealth Contest

This year a record number of 14 teams have announced that they intend to compete in next weekend's RSGB Commonwealth Contest.

There will be no less than five teams from Canada, two from Australia, one from New Zealand and one from Africa, one from the Caribbean and three from the UK and one from Scotland.

Team Australia are hoping to repeat their 2014 winning performance but this year's competition is expected to be one of the most keenly fought for years.

The contest runs from 10:00 UTC 14 March for 24 hours and full details are at <https://berucontest.wordpress.com/2015/>

### VHF/UHF Contest

The March leg of the South African Radio League VHF/UHF contest takes to the air over the weekend of 21 and 22 March, starting at 10:00 UTC on Saturday and ending 24 hours later. It is CW, digital, FM and SSB on 6, 4 and 2 metres, 70 and 23 cm and higher.

You can take part as a Base Station, a Field Station, a Club / Multi operator station or a 4 hour limited category station. These categories are further divided into sub-categories - 1) Unlimited - include both digital and analogue operation. "Analogue" would include FM, SSB and CW. 2) limited A category - analogue only and 3) limited D category - digital only.

Contacts must be fully two-way. Stations shall give signal reports as well as their location as latitude and longitude or full six-digit Maidenhead Locator. Operators that participate as operators in a field or multi-operator should not be allowed to make additional contacts using their own call sign. Stations should not be operated under more than one call except in the case where the equip-

ment is normally shared and operated by family members.

Self-Spotting will be allowed, e.g. you may announce that you are calling CQ on 144,250 on a repeater frequency or on internet logger. The contact itself or any information related to the contact must be unassisted. NO information can be sent between stations to assist with completing the contact.

No station may be worked twice on the same band; however, a station can be worked in both analogue and digital modes on the same band.

The contest exchange consists of the call signs, signal report and six-digit grid locator. All the exchange information shall be copied at the time of the QSO. No points will be forfeited if a non-competing station cannot provide a grid locator, or any other information that may be required. However, the receiving operator shall receive and record sufficient information to be able to calculate the score.

Get all the details on page 26 of the SARL Blue Book

[www.sarl.org.za/public/contests/contestrules.asp](http://www.sarl.org.za/public/contests/contestrules.asp) and/or [www.zs4bfm.co.za/bluebook.asp](http://www.zs4bfm.co.za/bluebook.asp)

### 5 MHz activity weekend

The South African Radio League 5 MHz activity weekend will be held on 28 and 29 March. The first slot will be run each day from 06:00 - 08:00 Central African Time with the second slot from 18:00 to 22:00 Central African Time. More details to follow.

### CQ WPX SSB Contest

The CQ WPX SSB Contest is a 48-hour event over the weekend of the 28 and 29 March with activity on 160 to 10 metres. Read all the information at [www.cqwpw.com/](http://www.cqwpw.com/)

### YASME News

Press Release - Two New Directors. Dated 5 March

The Board of Directors of the Yasma Foundation is pleased to announce that it has elected Ken Claerbout, K4ZW, and Hans Blondeel Timmerman, PB2T, to the Board, ef-

fective with the forthcoming Annual Meeting at Visalia, California. This action brings the number of Directors to nine.

Mr Claerbout was first licensed in 1977 and is an active DXer and tester. He was the founder of the popular webinar program, initiated while he was serving as President of the Potomac Valley Radio Club. Mr Claerbout has been instrumental in working with the students of the ET3AA club station who regularly activate Ethiopia on the HF bands.

Mr Blondeel Timmerman was first licensed in 1980. He served as IARU Region 1 President for six years beginning in 2008 and is President and Board Member of the European DX Foundation. Mr Timmerman is an active DXer and tester and has operated from 80 DXCC countries.

The Yasme Foundation is a not-for-profit corporation organized to conduct scientific and educational projects related to amateur radio, including DXing (long distance communication) and the introduction and promotion of amateur radio in developing countries. For additional information about The Yasme Foundation, visit our website at [www.yasme.org](http://www.yasme.org).

Ward Silver, NØAX, President, The Yasme Foundation

Board of Directors - Fred Laun, K3ZO, Director and Vice-President; Rusty Epps, W6OAT, Director and Treasurer; Kip Edwards, W6SZN, Director and Secretary; Martti Laine, OH2BH, Director; Mac McHenry, W6BSY, Director and Bob Vallio, W6RGG, Director

### Results of the National Field Day

Oh fruit cake! The log from the Welkom Radio Club, ZS4WRC, was received late (and sent to the wrong e-mail address!) The closing date was 22 February 2015, the log was only e-mailed on 27 February 2015.

This log is thus taken as a check log.

### DXpedition Videos

James Brooks, 9V1YC, has published a collection of his excellent videos of various DXpeditions, including VKØIR, A52A, VP8GEO, VP8THU, FT5XO, ZL8R, K4M, VP8ORK, BS7H, and WRTC-2014. I have seen them all, with A52A being my favourite of the DX videos and his WRTC-2014 documentary being the best of all WRTC videos. Any of these videos would make for a great club programme and all are excellent ways to explain the excitement of DXing and contesting to new amateurs. <https://vimeo.com/user36455730/videos>

### Three new free contest-logging packages

Speaking of contest logging software, prolific program purveyor, Scott, N3FJP, reports the release of three new free packages: ARRL Rookie Roundup Contest Log 1.0, Jambo-ree On The Air Log 1.0, and ARRL Kid's Day Log 2.0

Scott's simple user interface makes getting up to speed on contest logging very easy! <http://n3fjp.com/>

### Elecraft K3

Elecraft <http://www.elecraft.com/> has announced an upgrade of its synthesizer boards, curing a timing issue (a.k.a. - the "QRQ issue") with the K3. <https://www.mailman.qth.net/msg178650.html>.

Bob, N6TV, has prepared an article, which shows the on-air improvements provided by the upgrade <http://mldxcc.org/n6tv-k3.pdf>.

### Web Site of the Week

Bagging a contact with one of the many Antarctic bases is always a thrill during a contest - but how do you count them for multipliers? Luckily, we have two helpful Antarctic information pages to figure it all out. The Clublog Helpdesk offers the Zone Mapping for Antarctica page which even includes a downloadable spreadsheet from IV3TMM which details the many bases and settlements <http://clublog.freshdesk.com/support/solauti>



[ons/articles/3000025281-zone-mapping-for-antarctica.](http://www.k6eid.com/DXCC-Antarctica.htm)

K6EID has also published a colourful Antarctica Page with maps and images of QSLs received through the years <http://www.k6eid.com/DXCC-Antarctica.htm>.

### Word to the Wise

Rookie - an old word purportedly derived from the Civil War slang "reckie" for recruits. Various other adaptations are also claimed but in amateur radio, it means someone making their first foray into a contest or mode. If you are new to something in amateur radio - and we all are new to *something* - look for Rookie categories in contests and award programmes!

### Chat With the Designers

The popular audio program Chat with the Designers by George, N2APB, and Joe, N2CX, has returned <http://www.cwtd.org/>! The most recent programme featured Dave, AD7JT, discussing measuring a circuit's RF response and his design for a handheld Scalar Network Analyser (SNA) test instrument. Previous episodes dating back to 2011 are archived and available online.

### 2014 ARRL 10 Metre Contest

It looks like the December 2014 running of the ARRL 10 Metre Contest broke the record set in 2011 for number of logs received with 5 488 submissions! (The 2011 total was 5 378.) This reflects the good conditions, increased interest in HF from the yearlong ARRL Centennial QSO Party and nine new category and power categories for ARRL HF contests. <http://www.arrl.org/10-meter>

### CQ WW DX Contest

The project to convert all scores for the complete history of the CQ WW DX Contest into an online database has been completed [http://www.cqww.com/score\\_db.htm](http://www.cqww.com/score_db.htm). In a two-year project led by John, N2NC, a team of volunteers typed in all 169 679 SSB and 169 05 CW scores from the results which appeared in *CQ Magazine* results beginning in

1948. The 2014 results will be added as soon as the results are published. How about a big round of applause for the data entry team of AA4NU, AD1C, JK3GAD, K1EA, K3EST, KB9OWD, N1RR, N3RD, N5DX, NM2O, NO5W, OH6NIO, ON7SS, PD2R, and W2JU?

One result of having complete data online is this report by Stewart, GM4AFF, "A search on Sandy, GM3BCL (SK), produces a nice set of results. He never had any massive scores, but he didn't miss one SSB CQ WW in 48 years!"

### Operating Tip

This week's tip for phone contesting comes courtesy of Jim, K9YC, "Use settings in your rig to get rid of as much low frequency (speech) content as you can. The lows burn TX power, but do not contribute to speech intelligibility. I set up my K3 TXEQ for max cut of the three lowest octave bands (50, 100, 200 Hz) and 4 - 6 dB cut of the 400 Hz band. When I ran FT1000MPs, I set the audio bandwidth for 400 - 2 600 Hz." You can reset the response for casual operating after the contest. Jim also notes that most amateur microphones have a peak in their response around 3 kHz to compensate for roll off in the SSB filter.

### SDR transceiver

Bruce, N6BP, and Chris, KD2BMH, have announced a new 50 - 1000 MHz SDR transceiver as described in a recent Slashdot article. As Bruce explains, "This radio is unique in that it uses your smartphone for the GUI, uses apps to provide communication modes, contains an on-board FLASH-based gate-array and an uLinux system. We intend to go for FSF "Respects Your Freedom" certification for the device." Third-generation PC boards are in fabrication to serve as developer boards and later as full-featured transceivers that meet FCC certification requirements. <http://hardware.slashdot.org/story/15/02/25/2255225/developers-disclose-schematics-for-50-1000-mhz-software-defined-transceiver>



## Ground radial systems

Discussions of ground radial systems almost inevitably wind up circling around to the classic 1937 paper, "Ground Systems as a Factor in Antenna Efficiency," written by Brown, Lewis and Epstein of RCA in support of broadcast operation <http://bit.ly/1LLdtCI>. In case you ever wondered where the "120 radials" standard came from... this is it. The full paper is available online as a PDF for your reference library.

## A Pocket Reference

Texas Instruments recently released another excellent free reference - The Analogue Engineer's Pocket Reference. Although a little large for a shirt pocket, it is still jam-packed with good information.

[http://e2e.ti.com/blogs\\_/b/precisionhub/archive/2015/03/02/doing-the-math-the-inside-story-of-the-analog-engineer-s-pocket-reference](http://e2e.ti.com/blogs_/b/precisionhub/archive/2015/03/02/doing-the-math-the-inside-story-of-the-analog-engineer-s-pocket-reference).

## African Islands

IOTA frequencies

CW: 28 040 24 920 21 040 18 098 14 040 10 114 7 030 3 530 kHz

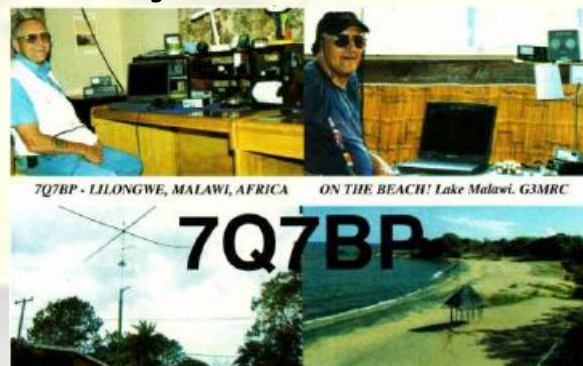
SSB: 28 560 28 460 24 950 21 260 18 128 14 260 7 055 3 760 kHz

Canary Islands, AM890, (Special Event). Jose, EA8CNR, will be using the special call sign AM890CNR from Gran Canaria (AF-004) between 1 and 30 April. Activity is to celebrate the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the IARU. Operations will be on SSB, RTTY, PSK, and JT65. QSL only via LoTW and eQSL (No BUREAU - No DIRECT).

## African DX

Malawi, 7Q. Joe, G3MRC, is once again active as 7Q7BP and is planning to participate in the RSGB Commonwealth CW Contest (BERU) between 14 and 15 March as a Single-Op/All-Band entry. He will be using a Kenwood TS-480HX with 200 watts, and several antennas, including a 5-bander Spider beam up 14 metres, an R-8 vertical on a 6 metre pole, and a

commercial multi-band dipole in an Inverted Vee configuration, centre at 14 metres, ends at 7 metres, running East/West. The length of Joe's stay is unknown. QSL via LoTW or via home call sign.



Eritrea, E3. Members of the SEISA / Foundation for Global Children are now active as E30FB (same call sign as before - new license) until 17 March. The "Eritrea Project 2015," is conducting their DXpedition from the capital of Asmara in Eritrea. They were heard around 15:00 UTC Friday 6 March on 10 meters SSB. The multi-national team of nine operators will use four transceivers consisting of two Elecraft K3 radios with the KPA500 amplifiers and two Kenwood TS590 transceivers with the ACOM 1010 amplifiers. They are using beam antennas for the high bands (10 to 20 metres) and four verticals for the low bands (30 to 160 metres). They will try to work every area as much as possible. QSL Manager is Tim, MOURX.



Namibia, V5. Nigel, G3TXF, is planning to be active as V5/G3TXF from Omaruru during the RSGB Commonwealth CW Contest (BERU) between 14 and 15 March. His length of stay is not known. QSL via his home call sign or use ClubLog's OQRS. For more details and possible updates, see <http://www.g3txf.com>

Namibia, V5. Tom, DM4TK, will be active as V5/DM4TK from Namibia between 21 March and 9 April. Activity will be holiday style on the HF bands, SSB only. QSL via his home call sign.

## History this week

Starting Monday 9 March 2015

105 - Ts'ai Lun invented paper made from bamboo, mulberry and other fibres, along with fishnets and rags

1611 - Johannes Fabricius, a Dutch astronomer, observed sunspots for the first time

1681 - King Charles II grants William Penn a royal charter for Pennsylvania

1755 - A steam engine was first reported used in America at a copper mine in New Barbados Neck, now North Arlington, New Jersey

1781 - English astronomer William Herschel detected Uranus in the night sky

1794 - Eli Whitney was issued a US patent for his cotton gin

1876 - Alexander Graham Bell made what was, in effect, the first telephone call, "Mr Watson, come here I want you." (*and the next day he got a telephone account!*)

1892 - An escalator design was patented in the US by inventor Jesse W. Reno of New York City

1897 - Marconi demonstrates radio to the UK Army and achieves about 5 km

1899 - Count Ferdinand von Zeppelin was issued a US patent for his invention of his "Nav-igable Balloon"

1930 - The discovery of a ninth planet, Pluto, was announced by C.W. Tombaugh at Lowell Observatory

2015 - ZS4BS broke his spectacles; initially they were multi-focal, after the fall, the one lens is bi-focal!

## Contest Calendar

This week's contests compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 9 to 16 March 2015

### QRP Fox Hunt

01:00 - 02:30 UTC 11 March

Mode: CW

Bands: 40 m Only

Classes: Single Op - fox or hound

Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RST, state, province or country, name and power output

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points

Submit logs by: 02:30 UTC 12 March 2015

E-mail logs to: (see rules)

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

[http://www.qrpfoxhunt.org/winter\\_rules.htm](http://www.qrpfoxhunt.org/winter_rules.htm)

### CWops Mini-CWT Test

13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 11 March and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 12 March

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high

Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts;

QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: Member: Name and member no; non-Member: Name and state, province or country

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: Each call once

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 04:00 UTC 14 March 2015

Post log summary at:

<http://www.hornucopia.com/3830score/>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.cwops.org/cwt.html>

### RSGB 80 m Club Championship, CW

20:00 - 21:30 UTC 11 March

Mode: CW

Bands: 80 m Only

Classes: (none)

Exchange: RST and serial no

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: (see rules)

Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 18 March 2015

Upload log at:

<http://www.rsgbcc.org/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2015/r80mcc.shtml>

### QRP Fox Hunt



01:00 - 02:30 UTC 13 March

Mode: CW

Bands: 80 m Only

Classes: Single Op - fox or hound

Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RST, state, province or country, name and power output

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points

Submit logs by: 02:30 UTC 14 March 2015

E-mail logs to: (see rules)

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

[http://www.qrpfoxhunt.org/winter\\_rules.htm](http://www.qrpfoxhunt.org/winter_rules.htm)

NCCC RTTY Sprint

01:45 - 02:15 UTC 13 March

Mode: RTTY

Bands: (see rules)

Classes: (none)

Exchange: Serial no, name and QTH

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 15 March 2015

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at:

<http://www.3830scores.com/>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://www.ncccsprint.com/rttyns.html>

NCCC Sprint

02:30 - 03:00 UTC 13 March

Mode: (see rules)

Bands: (see rules)

Classes: (none)

Exchange: Serial no, name and QTH

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 15 March 2015

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at:

<http://www.3830scores.com/>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html>

Nauryz DX Contest

08:00 - 13:59 UTC 14 March

Mode: CW, SSB

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op All Band Mixed - low or high; Single Op All Band CW; Single Op All Band SSB; Multi-Single; SWL

Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts

Exchange: Central Asian: RS(T) and 2-character oblast; Others: RS(T) and ITU Zone

Work stations: Once per band per mode

QSO Points: 10 points per QSO with central Asia; 1 point per QSO with same ITU zone; 3 points per QSO with different ITU zone same continent; 5 points per QSO with different continent

Multipliers: Each central Asian oblast once per band; Each ITU zone once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 7 April 2015

E-mail logs to: [nauryz@nauryz-dx-contest.com](mailto:nauryz@nauryz-dx-contest.com)

Upload log at:

<http://ua9qcq.com/contests/robot.php>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://www.nauryz-dx-contest.com/index.php/rules/rules-2015>

RSGB Commonwealth Contest

10:00 UTC 14 March to 10:00 UTC 15 March

Mode: CW

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op Open - 12 or 24 - assisted or unassisted; Single Op Restricted - 12 or 24 - assisted or unassisted; Multi-Op

Exchange: RST and serial no

QSO Points: 5 points per QSO; 20 additional points for each of first three QSOs with a Commonwealth Area or HQ station per band

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points

Submit logs by: 15 April 2015

Upload log at:

<http://www.rsgbcc.org/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl>

Mail logs to: RSGB-G3UFY, 77 Bensham Manor Road, Thornton Heath, Surrey CR7 7AF, England

Find rules at:



<http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2015/rberu.5.html>

#### F9AA Cup, SSB

12:00 UTC 14 March to 12:00 UTC 15 March

Mode: SSB

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 2 m

Classes: >100 W; >10 - 100 W; 10 W

Exchange: RST, serial no, license type and country or F Dept

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with individual; 5 points per QSO with club; Bonus: 50 points for each QSO with F8URC

Multipliers: (see rules)

Score Calculation: Total score = (total QSO points x total mults) and bonus points

Submit logs by: 14 April 2015

E-mail logs to: [concoursf9aa@urc.asso.fr](mailto:concoursf9aa@urc.asso.fr)

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://www.site.urc.asso.fr/urchaut-6/om-6/131-trophee-f9aa.html>

#### All Africa International DX Contest

12:00 UTC 14 March to 12:00 UTC 15 March

Mode: CW, SSB, RTTY

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: SOST All Band - CW, SSB, RTTY or mixed - QRP, low or high; SOST Single Band - CW, SSB, RTTY or mixed - QRP, low or high; SO2R - CW, SSB, RTTY or mixed - low or high; Multi-Single All Band - low or high; Multi-Single Single Band - low or high; Multi-Multi - low or high

Max power: HP: 1 500 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: RS(T) and serial no

Work stations: Once per band per mode

QSO Points: 10 points per QSO with an African entity; 1 point per QSO with non-African entity

Multipliers: Each African entity once per band per mode

Score Calculation: Total score = sum (band QSO pts x band mults for each band)

Submit logs by: 30 March 2015

E-mail logs to: [contest@sarl.org.za](mailto:contest@sarl.org.za)

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

[http://www.sarl.org.za/Document\\_Store/CONT\\_20150101\\_SARL\\_Contest\\_Manual\\_2015.pdf](http://www.sarl.org.za/Document_Store/CONT_20150101_SARL_Contest_Manual_2015.pdf)

Get on the **RaDAR**....and GO!



#### AGCW QRP Contest

14:00 - 20:00 UTC 14 March

Mode: CW

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op Only

Max power: VLP: 1 watt or less; QRP: 5 watts or less; MP: 25 watts or less; QRO: >25 watts

Exchange: RST, QSO no, class (power) and AGCW member no or "NM" if not member

QSO Points: 0 points per QSO for QRO - QRO; 3 points per QSO for QRP - VLP, VLP - QRP, VLP - VLP, QRP - QRP; 2 points per QSO for all others

Multipliers: 1 per AGCW member per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 31 March 2015

E-mail logs to: [grp-test@agcw.de](mailto:grp-test@agcw.de)

Mail logs to: Edmund Ramm, DJ6UX, Anderheitsallee 24, Bramfeld, D-22175 Hamburg, Germany

Find rules at:

<http://www.agcw.org/index.php/en/contests-and-cw-activities/qrp-contest>

#### Louisiana QSO Party

14:00 UTC 14 March to 02:00 UTC 15 March

Mode: CW/Digital, Phone

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6, 2 m

Classes: CW/Digital - QRP, low or high; Phone - QRP, low or high; Mixed Mode - QRP, low or high; Rover - CW, digital, phone or mixed - QRP, low or high

Max power: HP: 1 500 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: LA: RS(T) and Parish; non-LA: RS(T) and state, province or country

Work stations: Once per band per mode

QSO Points: 2 points per phone QSO; 4 points per CW/Digital QSO; LA Rovers: add 50

points to score for each parish activated; Bonus: add 100 points to score for working N5LCC at least once

Multipliers: LA stations: Each LA parish, state, province, country once per band per mode; Non-LA stations: Each LA parish once per band per mode

Score Calculation: Total score = (total QSO points x total mults) and bonus points

Submit logs by: April 14, 2015

E-mail logs to: [logs@laqp.org](mailto:logs@laqp.org)

Mail logs to: LAQP, Robert Baker, 136 Northwood Drive, West Monroe, LA 71291, USA

Find rules at:

[http://laqp.louisianacontestclub.org/laqso\\_rules.htm](http://laqp.louisianacontestclub.org/laqso_rules.htm)

#### QRP ARCI Spring Digital Sprint

15:00 - 18:00 UTC 14 March

Mode: Any digital

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: All Band; Single Band; High Bands; Low Bands

Exchange: RST, state, province or country and ARCI number or power

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 5 points per QSO with ARCI member; 4 points per non-member QSO with different continent; 2 points per non-member QSO with same continent; Bonus points: 5 000 for battery power portable with temporary antenna

Multipliers: Each state, province or country once per band

Power Mult:  $>5\text{ W} = \times 1$ ,  $1 - 5\text{ W} = \times 7$ ,  $500\text{ mW} - 1\text{ W} = \times 10$ ,  $200 - 500\text{ mW} = \times 15$ ,  $>55\text{ mW} - 200\text{ mW} = \times 20$ ,  $<55\text{ mW} = \times 25$

Score Calculation: Total score = (total QSO points x QTH mults x power mult) and bonus points

Submit logs by: 28 March 2015

E-mail logs to: [contest@qrparci.org](mailto:contest@qrparci.org)

Mail logs to: ARCI Spring Digital Sprint, c/o Jeff Hetherington, 139 Elizabeth St. W., Welland, Ontario L3C 4M3, Canada

Find rules at:

<http://www.qrparci.org/contests/grp-arcicontests/167-spring-digital-sprint>

#### EA PSK63 Contest

16:00 UTC 14 March to 16:00 UTC 15 March

Mode: PSK63

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op All Band; Single Op Single Band; Multi-Op

Exchange: EA: RSQ and province code; non-

EA: RSQ and serial no

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: (see rules)

Multipliers: Once each band (see rules)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 30 March 2015

E-mail logs to: [psk63@ure.es](mailto:psk63@ure.es)

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://concursos.ure.es/en/eapsk63/bases/>

#### TESLA Memorial HF CW Contest

18:00 UTC 14 March to 07:59 UTC 15 March

Mode: CW

Bands: 80 m Only

Classes: Single Op Full Time - QRP, low or high; Single Op Limited Time - QRP, low or high; Multi-One

Max power: HP: 1 500 watts; LP: 100 watts;

QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: RST, serial no and 4-character grid square

QSO Points: 1 point per km per QSO; 90 points per QSO with same grid square

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points

Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 20 March 2015

E-mail logs to: [tesla@radiosport.org.rs](mailto:tesla@radiosport.org.rs)

Upload log at:

<http://www.radiosport.org.rs/HFTeslaMemorial/index.php/log-submitting-service/13>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://www.radiosport.org.rs/HFTeslaMemorial/index.php/rules>

#### QCWA QSO Party

18:00 UTC 14 March to 18:00 UTC 15 March

Mode: CW/Digital, Phone

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 m

Classes: CW/Digital Only; Phone Only; Mixed



Exchange: last 2 digits of year first licensed, name and state, province, country or QCWA chapter

Work stations: Once per band per mode

QSO Points: 1 point per phone QSO; 2 points per CW/digital QSO; 100 bonus points for each QSO with W2MM on each band and mode

Multipliers: (see rules)

Score Calculation: Total score = (total QSO points x total mult points) and bonus points

Submit logs by: 14 April 2015

E-mail logs to: [w2od@aol.com](mailto:w2od@aol.com)

Mail logs to: W2OD, Robert Buus, 8 Donner Street, Holmdel N.J. 07733-2004, USA

Find rules at:

<http://www.qcwa.org/2015-qso-party-rules.pdf>

#### Idaho QSO Party

19:00 UTC 14 March to 19:00 UTC 15 March

Mode: CW, Phone, Digital

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op - CW, phone, digital or mixed - QRP, low or high; Multi-Single - CW, phone, digital or mixed - QRP, low or high; Multi-Multi - CW, phone, digital or mixed - QRP, low or high; Mobile/Rover - CW, phone, digital or mixed - QRP, low or high; School - CW, phone, digital or mixed - QRP, low or high  
Max power: HP: >150 watts; LP: 150 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: ID: RS(T) and county; non-ID: RS(T) and state, province or country

Work stations: Once per mode per band

QSO Points: 1 point per SSB QSO; 2 points per CW/digital QSO

Multipliers: ID: Each state, province and country once per mode; non-ID: Each ID county once per mode

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 14 April 2015

E-mail logs to: [idahogso@hotmail.com](mailto:idahogso@hotmail.com)

Mail logs to: KARS/logs, PO Box 1765, Hayden, ID 83835-1765, USA

Find rules at:

<http://idahoarri.info/qso-party/rules.htm>

#### North American RTTY Sprint

00:00 - 04:00 UTC 15 March

Mode: RTTY

Bands: 80, 40, 20 m

Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high

Max operating hours: 4 hours

Max power: HP: 1 500 watts; LP: 100 watts;

QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: other station's call, your call, serial no, your name and your state, province or country

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO;

non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station

Multipliers: Each US state (including KL7) once; Each VE province once; Each North American country (except W/VE) once

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 04:00 UTC 22 March 2015

E-mail logs to: (see rules, web upload preferred)

Upload log at:

<http://www.ncjweb.com/sprintlogsubmit/>

Mail logs to: Ed Muns, W0YK, PO Box 1877, Los Gatos, CA 95031-1877, USA

Find rules at:

<http://ncjweb.com/Sprint-Rules.pdf>

#### Wisconsin QSO Party

18:00 UTC 15 March to 01:00 UTC 16 March

Mode: CW/Digital, Phone

Bands: All, except WARC

Classes: Single Op - fixed, mobile, tech or rookie - QRP, low or high; Multi-Op - fixed, mobile or tech- QRP, low or high; M/M - fixed or mobile- QRP, low or high

Max power: HP: >150 watts; LP: 150 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: WI: county; non-WI: state, province or country

Work stations: Once per band per mode

QSO Points: 1 point per Phone QSO; 2 points per CW/Digital QSO; Bonus Points: 500 points for mobiles for each county from which you make at least 12 QSOs

Multipliers: WI Stations: WI counties, states, provinces once; Non-WI Stations: WI counties once

Power mults: HP x 1,0, LP x 1,5, QRP x 2,0

Score Calculation: Total score = (total QSO points x power mult x total mults) and bonus points

Submit logs by: 10 April 2015

E-mail logs to: [wqjp-logs@warac.org](mailto:wqjp-logs@warac.org)

Mail logs to: Wisconsin QSO Party, West Allis Radio Amateur Club, PO Box 1072, Milwaukee, WI 53201, USA

Find rules at:

[http://www.warac.org/wqp/wqjp\\_rules.htm](http://www.warac.org/wqp/wqjp_rules.htm)

Run for the Bacon QRP Contest

02:00 - 04:00 UTC 16 March

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Band; All Band

Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RST, state, province or country and member no or power

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-member; 3 points per QSO with member on same continent; 5 points per QSO with member on different continent

Multipliers: Each state, province or country once; Multiply mults by 2 if >50 members worked

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 22 March 2015

E-mail logs to: (none)

Upload log at:

<http://fpqrp.org/pigrun/autolog.php>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://fpqrp.org/pigrun/>

Bucharest Contest

18:00 - 20:59 UTC 16 March

Mode: CW, SSB, PSK31

Bands: 80, 40 m

Classes: Single Op QRP - CW, SSB, digital or mixed; Single Low Power - LPI - CW, SSB, digital or mixed; Multi-Op Low Power - LPG - CW, SSB, digital or mixed; SWL

Max power: LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: YO: RS(T), QSO no and sector or country; non-YO: RS(T), QSO no and country code

Work stations: Once per mode

QSO Points: 2 points per QSO: YO3 - YO3 or YO - YO or YO - Foreign; 4 points per QSO: YO3 - YO or YO - YO3 or YO3 - Foreign

Multipliers: Each YO county; Each YO3 sector; each country code

Score Calculation: Total score = total score of each segment (total QSO points x total mults)

Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 27 March 2015

E-mail logs to: [fenyo3jw@yahoo.com](mailto:fenyo3jw@yahoo.com)

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://yo3test201x.blogspot.ro/p/blog-page.html>

## Next Week's Contests

CLARA HF Contest, 17:00 UTC 17 March to 17:00 UTC 18 March and 17:00 UTC 21 March to 17:00 UTC 22 March

QRP Fox Hunt, 01:00 - 02:30 UTC 18 March

CWops Mini-CWT Test, 13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 18 March and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 19 March

NAQCC CW Sprint, 00:30 - 02:30 UTC 19 March

RSGB 80 m Club Championship, SSB, 20:00 - 21:30 UTC 19 March

QRP Fox Hunt, 01:00 - 02:30 UTC 20 March

NCCC RTTY Sprint, 01:45 - 02:15 UTC 20 March

NCCC Sprint, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 20 March

BARTG HF RTTY Contest, 02:00 UTC 21 March to 02:00 UTC, Mar 23

SARL VHF/UHF Analogue/Digital Contest, 10:00 UTC 21 March to 10:00 UTC 22 March

Russian DX Contest, 12:00 UTC 21 March to 12:00 UTC 22 March

Oklahoma QSO Party, 13:00 UTC 21 March to 01:00 UTC 22 March and 13:00 - 19:00 UTC 22 March

Virginia QSO Party, 14:00 UTC 21 March to 02:00 UTC 22 March and 12:00 - 24:00 UTC 22 March

Feld Hell Sprint, 17:00 - 18:59 UTC 21 March

UBA Spring SSB Contest, 07:00 - 11:00 UTC 22 March

Items used with acknowledgement to The ARRL Letter, Amateur Radio Newsline, OPDX



Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL DX Newsletter, ARRL DX News, WIA-News, the RSGB News, Southgate ARC News, DxCoffee and the Islands, Castles & Portable Operations Bulletin

The Mountain Wanderer - 600 mm gauge, 26 km in length. A Garrett locomotive nearing Vialima Village 14 km north of Ficksburg in the eastern Free State

